

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

SADDLEWORTH.

REPORT

ON THE

Health of the Rural District of Saddleworth.

FOR THE YEAR 1895,

BY

W. H. F. RAMSDEN, L.R.C.P. (Ed.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.)

FELLOW OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY OF MEDICAL

OFFICERS OF HEALTH,

AND

FELLOW OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH, ETC.

Members of the Rural District Council:

Chairman:

MR. JAMES WILLIAM HAIGH, J.P.

Vice-Chairmen:

MR. WILLIAM K. INGLIS,

MR. F. W. MALLALIEU.

MR. JAMES BUCKLEY,
MR. W. BUCKLEY, J.P., C.C.,
MR. JAMES BUTTERWORTH,
MR. W. A. CLARE,
MR. BEN DRANSFIELD,

MR. BUCKLEY HANSON,
MR. T. E. MOORHOUSE,
MR. W. RIPLEY, J.P.,
MR. G. A. SCHOFIELD,
MR. J. W. TANNER.

Clerk:

MR. JOSEPH BRADBURY, *Solicitor*, UPPERMILL.

Sanitary Inspector:

MR. JOHN THOMAS BRADBURY.

SUNNYSIDE,

DOBCROSS,

JANUARY, 1896.

*To the District Council of the Rural District of
Saddleworth.*

GENTLEMEN :

During the past twelve months ending December 31st, 1895, there were registered in your district 318 births and 218 deaths. Of the births, 173 were males and 145 females. There were 11 illegitimate births.

The birth-rate is equal to 24·3 per 1,000 inhabitants, of a population of 13,047, estimated to the middle of 1895. During the previous years the birth-rate was as follows :—

1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
—	—	—	—	—
26·84.	27·06.	28·7.	28·69.	24·3.

Of the children born, 42 died under 1 year of age, giving an infant mortality of 132·7 per 1,000 children born, as contrasted with 112·3 in 1894, 98·6 in 1893, 107·9 in 1892, and 88 in 1891. The excess of births over deaths in 1895, representing the natural increase in population, was 100. The average density of population per acre was 1·3, if the unenclosed moorland be excluded. There were 2,776 inhabited houses (according to the census of 1891) which gives an average of 4·6 persons to each house. The annual rateable value for General District Rate was £55,844, and for Poor Rate, £70,364. The General District Rate, including the Highway Rate, is 11d. in the £. The Poor Rate is 1s. 11d. in the £. There is also a special Sanitary Rate of 7½d. in the £.

Of the 218 deaths, 108 were males and 110 females. The death-rate being 16·7 per 1,000 inhabitants. During the four previous years it was as follows :—

1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
—	—	—	—	—
19·7.	18·9.	16·8.	16·3.	16·7.

There were 20 uncertified deaths, inquests being held in 8 cases.

Classified according to age, the deaths are as follows :—

Under 1 year	42
Between 1 year and 5	23
" 5 " " 15	13
" 15 " " 25	8
" 25 " " 65	66
Over 65	66

According to the cause of death, we have from :—

Smallpox	4
Measles	8
Scarlet Fever	1
Diphtheria	2
Croup	3
Whooping Cough	4
Enteric Fever.....	0
Pyæmia	0
Erysipelas	0
Diarrhœa.....	3
Rheumatic Fever	2
Puerperal Fever.....	0
Phthisis	14
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.....	40
Heart Disease.....	24
Inquests	8
Other diseases not classified	105

The deaths from the 7 principal zymotic diseases were 22, giving a zymotic death-rate of 1·6 per 1,000, as contrasted with 0·99 in 1894, 1·3 in 1893, 2·23 in 1892, and 0·86 in 1891. The deaths from Smallpox at the Moscow Hospital are not included here, as they belong to the Township of Oldham.

Seven Zymotic Diseases.		Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Fevers and Typhoid	Diarrhœa.
1891	0·86	—	0·154	0·154	0·076	—	0·076	0·38
1892	2·23	—	0·768	0·23	0·30	0·53	0·38	—
1893	1·3	0·15	0·076	0·228	0·228	0·228	0·30	0·076
1894	0·99	—	0·152	0·228	—	0·228	0·228	0·152
1895	1·6	·306	·612	·0765	·153	·306	—	·2295

Forty deaths were registered from Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy, giving a respiratory death-rate of 3·06 per 1,000 inhabitants. During the previous year the deaths numbered 33, and 31 in 1893. The same death-rate for the last five years is given for comparison :—

1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
—	—	—	—	—
7·6.	4·0	2·37.	2·53.	3·06.

There were 14 deaths from Phthisis, giving a death-rate of 1·07 per 1,000, as compared with 1·9 in 1894, 1·6 in 1893, 1·6 in 1892, and 1·3 in 1891.

Saddleworth is divided for registration purposes by a road from Standedge to Star Inn, Highmoor, and thence to Mossley. The Uppermill Sub-district includes Diggle Edge, a portion of New Delph, Diggle, Weakey, Woolroad, Dobcross, Tamewater, Wall Hill, Saddleworth Fold, Greenfield, and Royal George. Whilst the Delph Sub-district includes Bleakhey Nook, Castleshaw, Sandbed, a portion of New Delph, Delph, Austerlands, Slackcote, and Denshaw. The population, according to the census of 1881, was 5,423 in the Delph district, and 7,454 in the Uppermill district; whilst in that of 1891 it was 5,221 in the former, and 7,778 in the latter. This shows the Delph Sub-district to have had a diminished population of about 200, whilst that of Uppermill Sub-district has shown an increase of 300 inhabitants. The census of 1891 included a fairly large number of navvies and their families, which for the most part were in the Uppermill estimate, but who have for the most part left the district. The population of the Delph Sub-district is estimated for 1895 as 5,226, and that of the Uppermill Sub-district as 7,821. Tabulated therefore in this manner, we have:—

	DELPH DISTRICT.		UPPERMILL DISTRICT	
	1894.	1895.	1894.	1895.
Births.....	133	134	... 241	184
Males	67	80	... 119	93
Females.....	66	54	... 122	91
Birth-rate	25·4	25·6	... 30·8	23·5
Illegitimate Births..	9	7	... 6	4
Deaths	76	90	... 137	128
Males	35	44	... 71	64
Females.....	41	46	... 66	64
Deaths at Moscow Smallpox Hospital	9	15	... ..	...
Death-rate.....	12·8	19·2	... 17·6	16·3
Uncertified deaths..	10	8	... 18	12
Inquests	2	2	... 7	6
Vaccinations.....	25	22	... 16	16

There is no record of still-births, which ought not to be permissible, for several are buried without any certificate or examination by a medical man.

Classified according to age:—

Under 1 year.....	20	23	... 22	29
Between 1 and 5 years...	7	11	... 7	12
„ 5 „ 15 „ ...	5	6	... 4	7
„ 15 „ 25 „ ...	4	3	... 12	5
„ 25 „ 65 „ ...	24	26	... 53	40
Over 65	16	21	... 39	45

Classified according to cause of death:—

Smallpox	0	4	... 0	0
Measles	2	4	... 0	4
Scarlet Fever	1	1	... 2	0
Diphtheria	0	0	... 0	2
Croup.....	0	2	... 0	1
Rheumatic Fever.....	0	0	... 0	2
Whooping Cough	3	4	... 0	0
Enteric Fever	0	0	... 1	0

Classified according to cause of Death—(continued) :

Diarrhœa	0	0	...	2	3
Pyæmia	1	0	...	0	0
Puerperal Fever	2	0	...	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	...	1	0
Phthisis	5	3	...	20	11
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy	11	12	...	22	28
Heart Disease	8	14	...	9	14
Other diseases not clas- sified	34	46	...	80	63
	<hr/> 76	<hr/> 90		<hr/> 137	<hr/> 128

The greatest amount of sickness prevailed during the months of March, February, January, August, November, April, May, June, July, October, September, and December, given in the above order. March, February, and January were the three unhealthiest months during the year.

Smallpox.—On June the 27th, George Knight, of Thurston Clough, was notified as suffering from Smallpox. The fact that he worked in a stone quarry about 500 yards from the Smallpox Hospital at Moscow, belonging to the Corporation of Oldham, suggests the possibility of there being a current of air from the Hospital to the quarry, from which he may possibly have derived infection, this being supported by the fact that the smell of clothing burnt at the Moscow Hospital was repeatedly noticed in the quarry. The Isolation Hospital at Runninghill was at once got in readiness, where he was removed as quickly as possible (on the 28th). The disease was of a hæmorrhagic type and proved fatal in a few days. It was ascertained that he had never been vaccinated. John Cocker, of Green Leach Farm, was admitted to the Runninghill Hospital on July 20th. He had been vaccinated in childhood, and only suffered from a mild type of Smallpox. He admitted to having been near the Moscow Hospital in search of cattle which had strayed in its vicinity through inefficient fencing. The other inmates of the farm refused to be vaccinated. On August 5th, that is seventeen days later, his brother, Hervey Cocker, was notified as suffering from the disease; like his brother, he had been vaccinated in childhood and only suffered from a mild attack. On July 23rd, at Delph Barn, Ann Tippitt was found to be suffering from Smallpox. She was at once removed to the Hospital at Runninghill. The disease proved to be of a mild type, it being noteworthy that she had been vaccinated in childhood. A couple of days later, two more cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital, the first being a baby nine months old, a daughter of Mrs. Ackroyd, of Waterhead. The child had not been vaccinated, and here again the attack was of a severe and confluent type, causing death on the sixth day. The only source that could be traced was the fact that she and her baby had been near some woman who had lately had several of her children removed to the Moscow Hospital. The second case was that of Mrs. Rhodes, of Rose Hill Farm, Waterhead. Her husband had been working in the same quarry as George Knight, and although

he had not required medical attendance, and so was never notified as suffering from Smallpox, yet he had been too ill to go to work for the fortnight previous. She seemed to think, and with probability, that he had been suffering from Smallpox, though nothing definite could be observed at the time of the commencement of his wife's illness. The disease was of a malignant type and quickly resulted in death. She had not been vaccinated. George T. Bradbury, of Thurston Clough, was admitted with signs of Smallpox on August 8th. He denied having been near the Hospital, and stated that the only way in which he thought he could have caught it was from walking with Mr. Rhodes, who, he said, complained of feeling ill. Sarah Smith, of Waterhead, a girl of twelve, was admitted to the Hospital on August 9th. She had visited a house where several children had been removed to the Moscow Hospital on account of Smallpox. She had also been vaccinated in childhood, and only suffered from a slight attack. On the 14th of August I found William T. Day, of Diggle Edge, to be suffering from this disease, and on the 28th, his mother also fell ill from it. They were both removed to the Hospital on the day the disease was discovered. They had both been vaccinated and suffered only from a mild attack. The other inmates were re-vaccinated and did not contract it, and all other precautions were observed. Alice Hayward, of Delph, was admitted to the Hospital on August 22nd, with signs of Smallpox, and fifteen days later two of her neighbours, Mary A. Swann and Joseph Swann were found to be suffering from the disease, at the White Lion, Delph. They had all been vaccinated, and had only a mild type of the disease. There is little doubt that both Mary and Joseph Swann contracted it from Mrs. Hayward. I deemed it necessary to at once close the house, to prevent the danger of infection, after removal of the patients. For nearly three weeks the house was under daily inspection, whitewashed, cleansed, and thoroughly disinfected before being re-opened. The Smallpox Hospital was closed at the end of September, and we were hoping to have done with this disease when a fresh case was reported on December 23rd in the person of Mrs. Alice Wood, of Green Lane. She had been cleaning the new Hospital erected by the Oldham Corporation, and thinks she must have caught it from the brushes, &c., which were given her, as these had been borrowed from the Moscow Hospital. The Runninghill Hospital had to be re-opened and matron re-engaged. The case was of a mild type. It will be within the recollection of your Authority that they felt aggrieved at the Oldham Corporation not having closed their Hospital at Moscow, and a summary notice was sent to that body, stating that if the Moscow Hospital was not closed within a given time legal action would be taken. I am glad, however, to report that such action has probably been averted by the compliance of the Oldham Corporation with their request. Altogether there have been fifteen cases admitted to the Infectious Hospital during 1895, seven being directly or indirectly due to infection from the Moscow Hospital, and living in its immediate neighbourhood. Of the remaining eight, two were at Diggle Edge, four at Delph, and two at Waterhead. The two at Diggle Edge were in the same family. The

source of their contagion could not be ascertained. Concerning the other four at Delph, two were in the same family, and had evidently contracted it from another case near. The source of infection in the other case could not be ascertained. The two at Waterhead had probably contracted it from the same source, namely, from the family that had several members removed to the Moscow Hospital, whilst the remaining seven seemed to have been infected, directly or indirectly, from the Moscow Hospital; two possibly from the quarry near the Hospital, one of which transmitted it to two more, whilst the other two seem to have been in the vicinity of the Moscow Hospital, and one to have used material that had been lent by that Hospital. It will be observed that all the cases had been vaccinated once, with the exception of the four that died, and those had never been vaccinated.

Out of the 318 births registered only 38 were vaccinated, leaving 280 unvaccinated. That is, more than 88·1 per 100 children born were unvaccinated, compared with 89·03 in 1894.

Whooping Cough was present in January and February chiefly, but also to a lesser extent during the first half of the year. Thirty-four cases were reported from the Wesleyan School, Delph, and therefore necessitated its closure from January 4th to February 8th. Four deaths resulted from this disease at Delph—in January, 1; February, 2; and June, 1.

Measles occurred both in January and February, but was widely prevalent during June, July, and August. At Greenfield more than 65 cases were reported, and necessitated the closure of both St. Mary's and the Wesleyan Schools for a fortnight each in June. The Wesleyan School at Delph was also closed during the same month, as there were more than 40 cases reported. In August, the Boarshurst School was closed for the same reason, from August 5th to the 17th. The epidemic was of a mild type, though 8 deaths resulted; 4 in the Delph and 4 in the Uppermill Sub-district. Their distribution in months was—in January, 1; February, 1; May, 1; June, 1; July, 3; and in August, 1. It is very much to be regretted that one has no means of accurately knowing the particulars of the cases, so that isolation could be insisted on. Unfortunately many people will not only persist in visiting such cases, but will actually expose their children to the disease with the idea that it is better to get it over during childhood.

Scarlet Fever was prevalent during the first half of the year and during November. The notifications numbered 32; of which 11 were notified in January, 6 in February, 8 in March, 3 in April, 1 in May, and 3 in November. Four cases occurred in the Delph and 28 in the Uppermill Sub-district. Of the former 2 occurred near Austerlands, and 2 in the same family at Stoneswood. Of the latter, the distribution was—in Dobcross, 10; Diggle, 7; Woolroad, 2; Tamewater, 3; Golborne Clough, 2; and Greenfield, 4.

The epidemic was of a very mild character, only one case proving fatal (in one of the cases near Austerlands). Each case was visited, isolation rigorously insisted on as far as practicable, and disinfectants used. It is interesting to note that one family had 4 members attacked, two families 3 each, and two other families 2 each, the remaining 18 being solitary cases.

Diphtheria was notified 8 times, twice in the Delph and 6 times in the Uppermill Sub-district. Of the former, one occurred at New Barn in March. No insanitary conditions were noticed. The second case was at Grain's Bar. Inspection of the property shewed the drainage to be defective. This is now remedied. Of the latter, 5 were in Greenfield, and the remaining one at Golborne Clough. In the last case defective drainage was discovered, and notice to abate given with the result that this has since been remedied. Of the 5 cases in Greenfield, 4 were at Road End and one at Frenches. The case at Frenches and one of the Road End cases resulted in death. Much care was taken to find out the cause of this outbreak in Greenfield, but nothing of an insanitary condition was discoverable. Some foul smells were said to be present near some drains at the back of the King William, but though nothing absolutely wrong was observed, yet the drains were thoroughly cleansed. In March there were 2 cases; October, 1; November, 4; and December, 1.

Membranous Croup was notified 7 times; 4 in the Delph Sub-district, and 3 in the Uppermill Sub-district. Those in the Delph section were at Beswicks, Wood Brow, Stonewood, and Delph. No insanitary conditions were observed, though the fields had been freshly manured in the neighbourhood of Beswicks. Those in the Uppermill section numbered two at Tamewater, and one near Saddleworth Fold. Nothing of an insanitary condition was discoverable. Death resulted in two of the cases. Distributed in months, they occurred twice during February; in March, 1; July, 1; and October, 3.

Enteric Fever.—Sixteen cases of Enteric Fever were notified; 5 in the Delph Registration Sub-district, and 11 in the Uppermill Sub-district. In January there were 3 cases, February, 3; May, 2; June, 2; July, 2; September, 1; October, 1; and December, 2. Their distribution in the Uppermill Sub-district was as follows:—Diggle, 2; Dobcross, 2; Woolroad, 1; near Uppermill, 2; Greenfield, 3; and Boarshurst, 1. In the Delph Sub-district there were 3 at Delph and 2 at Slackcote. Two of the cases occurred in one family, where the slopstone pipe was untrapped and an accumulation of ashes found. These have been abated. In the rest, defective drainage was found in two, and these also have been remedied. Disinfectants were freely used.

Continued Fever was notified 4 times. Nothing of an insanitary nature was found.

Puerperal Fever was notified twice, viz., in March and May. No insanitary conditions discovered. One case was at New Delph, and the other at Shawhall Bank. Disinfectants thoroughly used.

Erysipelas.—Notifications of this disease numbered 15. Their distribution in months being, January, 1; February, 3; March, 2; April, 3; June, 2; August, 2; November, 1; and December, 1. In the Delph Sub-district there were 7 cases, viz.: Delph, 5; Slackcote, 1; Denshaw, 1. In the Uppermill Sub-district there were 8. At Diggle, 1; Wool-road, 1; Dobcross, 1; near Uppermill, 1; and at Greenfield, 4. They were all visited, though nothing insanitary was noted.

In every case of notified infection, disinfectants were freely and gratuitously supplied. The disinfectants used were Sanitas and Carbolic Acid, Sulphur, and Kingzett's Sulphur Candles, and every precaution taken to thoroughly purify and disinfect the infected houses.

Disinfectants have also been freely and gratuitously supplied when asked for. The Notification of Infectious Diseases, which was adopted in December, 1889, has again proved of considerable advantage.

Chicken Pox was prevalent during August at Denshaw, and during October at Royal George and Greenfield.

The district is a large and hilly one, intersected by the Huddersfield Canal. It has an area of 17,555 acres, 3 roods 6 poles, of which 8,200 acres are unenclosed moorland. The district is chiefly dependent on woollen manufactures. A large proportion of female labour is employed, which, no doubt, has influence in raising the infant mortality. The water from the hills forms the River Tame and the Diggle and Greenfield brooks, except where it has been collected to form numerous reservoirs or mill dams, or utilized to form waterworks. The Ashton, Dukinfield, and Stalybridge Corporations have their waterworks in the Greenfield valley, and supply an increasing number of houses every year, viz.: in 1891 they supplied 800 houses; in 1892, 816; in 1893, 839; in 1894, 850; and in 1895, 869. The average daily consumption is 13 gallons. The Oldham Corporation have made waterworks at Castleshaw and at Denshaw. No provision is made for the water supply of your district by their waterworks, so that the only available water supply, apart from wells, is from the Greenfield reservoirs. They supply nearly two-sevenths of the inhabited houses with water, which, although somewhat ferruginous, is of a good potable character. Many people, however, persist in drinking water from surface wells, in spite of frequent warnings as to the suspicious character of the water, which is often contaminated owing to the practice of manuring fields, which they drain. I cannot, therefore, too strongly urge the necessity of having the houses supplied from the Greenfield waterworks wherever possible. It is much to be regretted that, with the exception of the Ashton, Stalybridge, and Dukinfield Waterworks, no water supply from the reservoirs at Castleshaw or Denshaw is obtainable.

There are 31 miles, 7 furlongs, and 143 yards of main roads in Saddleworth, divided as follows :—

Greenfield and Shepley Lane Head, 4 miles, 7 furlongs, 90 yards.

Huddersfield and New Hey, 3 miles, 2 furlongs.

Oldham and Ripponden, 6 miles, 7 furlongs, 70 yards.

Oldham and Standedge, 9 miles, 4 furlongs, 149 yards.

Ridge Hall Lane and Hole House Trust, 176 yards.

Shawhall Bank, 3 furlongs, 40 yards.

Stockport and Ashton, 1 mile, 6 furlongs, 196 yards.

Wakefield and Austerlands, 4 miles, 3 furlongs, 101 yards.

Staley Trust, 3 furlongs, 201 yards.

The expenditure by the county on this length of road during the year ending March 31st, 1895, amounted to £6,186 3s. 8d. and towards this sum Saddleworth contributed £1,176.

As regards the lighting of the district, Dobcross and Delph are efficiently lighted, and steps are being taken to light Greenfield either by gas or electricity.

At Dobcross we have obviated the necessity of having the Board School, better accommodation and separate classrooms having been provided.

The number of vagrants at the Workhouse numbered 4,543 during 1895, consisting of 3,827 men, 515 women, and 201 children. In 1894 they were 6,462 in number. These numbers do not include those that pass through the district, without going to the Workhouse, and which are also a source of danger, as the outbreaks of Smallpox in the last few years testify to.

During the severe weather of last winter there was much distress, owing to want of employment. This was much alleviated by the institution of soup kitchens at Dobcross, Uppermill, Delph, and Greenfield. The new Sewerage Works have provided work for a many who must otherwise have been unemployed.

The laying down of Sewers and erection of Sewage Works has been going on during the whole of the year, the severe frost and heavy rainfall having materially delayed the works, but are now practically completed. It is desirable that the connections to houses be made forthwith. There are three distinct sewerage schemes :

1. The Delph, Dobcross, and Diggle ;
2. The Greenfield and Friezland ;
3. The Royal George and Grasscroft.

These schemes were made by Mr. McCallum, of Manchester. The sewage is to be purified by filtration through beds of Polarite, covered with sand, which have the effect of oxidizing the organic matter in the sewage and thus rendering it innocuous. If sufficiently purified the effluent is at once discharged into the River Tame, but if not sufficiently pure it is afterwards run into land specially purchased for that

purpose, where the requisite purification is effected. The Polarite Filter Beds are only used six hours out of the twenty-four, in order to give them the necessary rest.

In the Delph, Dobcross, and Diggle Scheme, sewers are laid from Brownhill to Linfitts, through Tamewater and Delph. Branches are received from New Delph (as far as Lower Stones), Midgrove, Dobcross, and Diggle, as far as Sam Lane. The Sewage Works are at Brownhill. The Sewering and Sewage Works were let on contract for £5,900. The borrowing powers sanctioned by the Local Government Board being £8,250.

The Royal George and Grasscroft Scheme is to lay down sewers from near Greenfield Station to Royal George, receiving branches from Shawhall and Grasscroft; the Sewage Works are to be near the River Tame, close to Armit Mill. The contract for this is about £1,950; the sanctioned borrowing powers being £4,425.

The Greenfield and Friezland Scheme is to lay down sewers from near Greenfield Station to Waterside, receiving branches from Ladhill and Horsforth. The Works are near the River, and close to Greenfield Station. The contract is for £1,700, and borrowing powers £2,975.

I am glad to say that land has been purchased for the reception of ashes midden refuse, both at Dobcross and Greenfield. The removal of such material should, I think, be undertaken by the Authority, and not left to be perfunctorily performed.

Meteorological Report.—I have been furnished by William Watts, Esq., F.G.S., Resident Engineer of the Oldham Corporation Waterworks at Piethorn, with the following meteorological report, for which I am again indebted:—

RAINFALL AT CASTLESHAW, IN 1895.

Rain Gauge: Diameter of Funnel, Sin.; Height of Top above ground, 4 ft.; above sea level, 875 ft., 6in.

Month.	Rainfall. inches.	Greatest fall in 24 hours. date.	inches.	No. of days on which rain fell
January	2'43	18	0'45	16
February	0'57	28	0'39	2
March	4'17	23	0'71	18
April	2'67	25	0'72	13
May	1'28	1	0'38	9
June	4'64	26	2'21	10
July	8'78	21, 25	2'03	20
August	4'78	26	1'19	19
September.....	1'73	6	0'94	8
October	4'44	2	0'84	19
November	3'31	16	0'43	22
December	4'68	4	0'76	16
	43'48			172

The yearly fall at Castleshaw during 1895, is 3·3 inches below the true mean, as given by G. I. Symons, F.R.S., for a longer period. July was abnormally wet and February abnormally fine. With these exceptions the pluvial condition of the year calls for no further remarks, except that the down-pour, on the whole, has been great, judged by the number of wet days and the aggregate fall in one month. June, July, and August show this in a marked degree. Please note that in July the rainfall was 2·03 inches on two days respectively, viz: 21st and 25th. Rainy days such as these scour the streams, and sweeten and cleanse their environment.

The Nuisance Inspector's Report is appended.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

W. H. F. RAMSDEN.

NUISANCE INSPECTOR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1895.

NUISANCES.	Nuisances not abated during 1894 which have since been remedied.	Nuisances reported during 1895, which are		Total Number Examined during 1895.
		Abated.	Unabated.	
Accumulation of Ashes and Offensive Matter .....	...	11	1	12
Defective Drainage	6	17	5	22
Privies and Ashpits requiring Emptying and Cleaning.	5	26	2	28
Slaughter-houses Examined .....	...	...	...	16
Slaughter-houses Licensed, 1895 .....	...	...	...	1
Total Number of Slaughter-houses Licensed .....	...	...	...	16
Insufficient Privy Accommodation.....	7	12	4	16
Number of Closets ordered to be erected	10	9	7	16
Defective Construction of Closets .....	...	4	1	5
Filthy Houses .....	...	1	1	2
Filthy Matter lying exposed .....	...	14	1	15
Fouling of Water .....	...	3	1	4
Plans of New Property submitted .....	...	...	...	33
Stabling in Cellar under a House .....	...	1	1	1
Fencing Quarry .....	...	1	1	1
TOTAL ...	28	99	23	188

J. T. BRADBURY, Nuisance Inspector.

